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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/697,339	10/30/2003	Neil McLellan	50626.62	7508
35510	7590	03/17/2005		
KEATING & BENNETT, LLP 10400 EATON PLACE SUITE 312 FAIRFAX, VA 22030			EXAMINER LE, DUNG ANH	
			ART UNIT 2818	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/697,339	Applicant(s) MCLELLAN ET AL.	
	Examiner DUNG A. LE	Art Unit 2818	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application.

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

a) Species I, e.g. claims 1-10: Method for fabricating a leadless plastic chip carrier having die attach pad with steps of laminating a first metal strip and second metal strip (leadframe strip) and selectively plating at least one of silver, nickel/gold, and nickel/palladium to an upper surface of the first metal strip (top surface of the leadframe strip) prior to selectively etching the top surface of the top leadframe strip.

b) Species II, e.g. claims 11-13: Method for fabricating a leadless plastic chip carrier having die attach pad with the steps of depositing one of tin and solder on an upper surface and a lower surface of a second metal strip; joining of the first and the second metal strips; selectively plating at least one of silver, nickel/gold, and nickel/palladium to an upper surface of the first metal strip (figs. 2A-2O).

c) Species III, e.g. claim 14: Method for fabricating a leadless plastic chip carrier having die attach pad with the steps of selectively plating at least one of silver, nickel/gold, and nickel/palladium to an upper surface of the first metal strip; depositing one of tin and solder on an upper surface and a lower surface of a second metal strip; joining of the first and the second metal strips (figs. 1A-1O)

d) Species IV, e.g. claims 15-23: Method for fabricating a leadless plastic chip carrier without die attach pad with steps of laminating a first metal strip and second metal strip (leadframe strip) and selectively plating at least one of silver, nickel/gold, and nickel/palladium to an upper surface of the first metal strip (top surface of the leadframe strip) prior to selectively etching the top surface of the top leadframe strip.

e) Species V, e.g. claims 24-26: Method for fabricating a leadless plastic chip carrier without die attach pad with depositing one of tin and solder on an upper surface and a lower surface of a second metal strip; joining of the first and the second metal strips; selectively plating at least one of silver, nickel/gold, and nickel/palladium to an upper surface of the first metal strip (figs. 5A-5M).

f) Species VI, e.g. claim 27: Method for fabricating a leadless plastic chip carrier without die attach pad with selectively plating at least one of silver, nickel/gold, and nickel/palladium to an upper surface of the first metal strip; depositing one of tin and solder on an upper surface and a lower surface of a second metal strip; joining of the first and the second metal strips (figs. 4A-4O).

2. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claims is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claim is generic. Applicant is advised that a response to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any

claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is all claims are generic is considered non-responsive unless accompanied by an election.


3. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.141. If claims are added after the selection, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. M.P.E.P. 809.02(a). Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 of the other invention.

4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filled petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dung A. Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-1784. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00am- 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Nelms can be reached on (571) 272-1787. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DUNG A. LE 
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2818